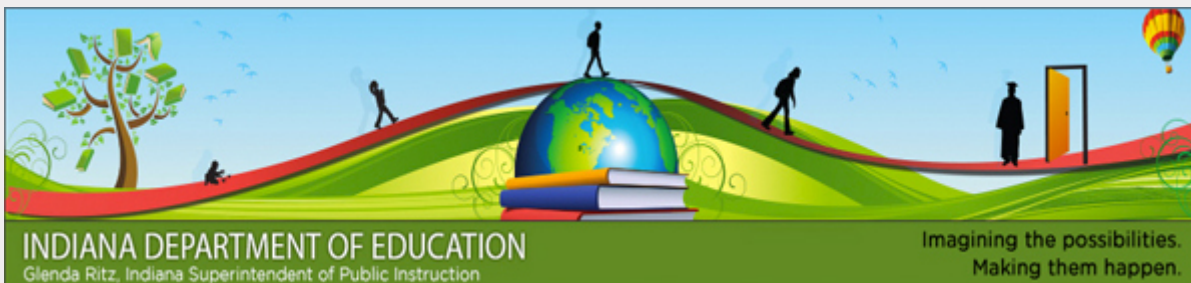


# Message from Superintendent Ritz

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## Weekly Message from Superintendent Ritz July 8, 2016

Due to recent legislation, Indiana middle school teachers now can apply for federal and state loan forgiveness. This year, Indiana's General Assembly changed the meaning of "Secondary School" through [Senate Bill 93](#). This clarification means that eligible middle school teachers can apply for loan forgiveness. In addition, with regards to the Career Pathways and Mentorship Program, it is important to note that in most cases schools do not need approval from the State Board of Education for their current or future membership efforts. Finally, it is important to note that while the Dual Credit Teacher Stipend Matching Grant and the System for Teacher and Student Advancement Grant were both created, funding was not provided for either of them by the Indiana General Assembly. This means they will not be funded prior to the 2017-18 school year.

As a result of the recent legislative session, the Department is developing new guidance for schools on these and other issues, including grants and the programs that have been approved by the General Assembly. We are working to get this guidance to you as soon as possible.

Finally, I would like to remind you all that April 22 is Earth Day. This is a great opportunity to teach your children about our planet and ways to increase sustainability. You can find information and lesson plans click [HERE](#).

Have a Great week!

Sincerely,

Glenda Ritz, NBCT

Superintendent of Public Instruction



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## ESSA Flexibility Waiver Related News

The U.S. Department of Education (USED) is working with State Education Agencies, like

the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE), by advising them and listening to them as federal law transitions to the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). As we continue to work through USED's rule promulgation of this new law, we will keep schools, teachers and administrators updated on any new finalized items. To follow the progress of this law, USED has provided the public with a WEB PAGE and an FAQ on this transition. We have included it below for you. Thank you and we look forward to working with our stakeholders as we go through this transition. USED ESSA WEB PAGE: [Click Here](#), ESSA FAQ from USED: [Click Here](#).

If you have any questions, please contact Federal Relations Director Jeff Coyne at [jcoyne@doe.in.gov](mailto:jcoyne@doe.in.gov).



Through the Hoosier Family of Readers initiative, students and their families across the state have unlimited access to reading material on [myON](#).

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### IDOE Memoranda

**NEW - Congratulatory Letter for 2016 Honors Diploma Recipients**, the congratulatory letter from Superintendent Ritz for 2016 honors diploma recipients is now available. Schools may print these letters for their students who graduate with honors this year. Congratulatory letters can be accessed [HERE](#)

- To access this URL, you will need your school's corporation number and User ID.
- To obtain your school's corporation number and User ID, you will need to contact your school's Superintendent's Office.
- Please note that letters are available only for honors diplomas and will not be sent to schools. '

Finally, the online ordering for 2016 diploma seals closed on Friday, March 25th. Questions regarding the honors letter can be directed to Amanda Culhan, [aculhan@doe.in.gov](mailto:aculhan@doe.in.gov). Questions regarding diploma seals can be sent to Audra Hacker, [ahacker@doe.in.gov](mailto:ahacker@doe.in.gov)

**NEW - Culinary Skills Workshop**, The Indiana Department of Education's School and Community Nutrition Division is proud to announce upcoming hands-on Culinary Skills for A+ School Meals workshops developed by Culinary Solution Centers LLC and taught by chefs and culinary trainers experienced with working with schools.

- This free 5-day culinary skills workshop is designed for school nutrition professionals - cooks, managers, directors - all are welcome to sign up!
- Not only will participants receive hands-on training, they will also be able to take home tools and resources to use in their own school kitchens.

The week-long workshop will take place from 8 am to 3 pm every day at the following locations [HERE](#) Contact Cathy Powers at [powers.catharine@gmail.com](mailto:powers.catharine@gmail.com) or Allie Caito-Sipe at [acaito@doe.in.gov](mailto:acaito@doe.in.gov).

**NEW - New Food Service Director Training (FSD 101)**, The Indiana Department of Education invites new School Food Service Directors to learn more about USDA's Child Nutrition Programs. The IDOE is interested in building a strong relationship with new Food Service Directors in order to promote successful school food service operations. The IDOE is interested in building a strong relationship with new Food Service Directors in order to promote successful school food service operations. This one day orientation will be held, July 26, 2016, Zionsville Community Schools, Educational Services Center. Click [here](#) to register. Click [here](#) for an agenda.

**NEW - Orientation to School Nutrition Management**, (5-day training) Is an overview of the management components of school nutrition programs. The target audience includes school nutrition program staff with fewer than 5 years' experience as a director or those who may

aspire to be a director, as well as state agency staff, specialists, and trainers. Visit DOE's Training webpage [here](#) and scroll down to Orientation to School Nutrition Management to [register](#).

[Dual Language Immersion Pilot Program Grant](#) is now available. Applications are due by 4:00pm on May 13, 2016. Priority consideration in the FY 2016-2017 application process will be given to the FY 2015-2016 grant winning schools in good standing. Please direct questions to Jill Woerner at [jwoerner@doe.in.gov](mailto:jwoerner@doe.in.gov) or 317-234-5705.

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## Professional Development

**NEW - Aspiring Principals Conference.** April 15 & 16 at Lawrence Township. Details and registration available [here](#).

- [Secretaries Conference](#). April 29 @ Valle Vista Conference Center in Greenwood. Show that Administrative Assistant how much you appreciate them (Administrative Assistants Day is April 27J) by registering them [here](#).
- [Indiana New Administrators Institute \(INALI\)](#). Cohort III will kick off in July. This two year program, with mentoring, is designed for all administrators with 0-3 years of experience. Information and registration can be found [here](#).

**Indiana School Health conference**, June 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> in Indianapolis for the annual Indiana School Health conference brought to you by the Indiana School Health Network and Covering Kids and Families of Indiana. [Register now](#) Visit [www.inschoolhealth.org](http://www.inschoolhealth.org) for the latest information

**NEW - Professional Standards**, Under the new USDA Professional Standard rule, when hiring a new Food Service Director, schools implementing the school nutrition programs must ensure the new hire meets certain professional standards. Check out pages 11-12 in the [Guide to Professional Standards of School Nutrition Programs](#). All food service staff must meet professional standard hours set by USDA each school year, July 1-June 30. This applies to directors, managers, and program staff (part-time and full-time), and specific hours must be met for each category. For more information, click [here](#) for the USDA Q&A; click [here](#). For questions or concerns, please contact Sarah Kenworthy at [skenworthy@doe.in.gov](mailto:skenworthy@doe.in.gov) or 317-232-0857.

**Indiana State Library's INSPIRE Digital Literacy Resource**, [INSPIRE](#) has licensed TeachingBooks.net - a service that enhances your literacy work with instructional and primary source materials about the books and authors your students are reading. To learn more register for INSPIRE Webinars covering a variety of topics including Indiana reading lists, cross curricular resources and more. Details at: <http://TeachingBooks.net/IndianaRegistration> or email [accounts@TeachingBooks.net](mailto:accounts@TeachingBooks.net) or call (800) 596-0710

**Indiana State Fair Field Trips** are an opportunity for Classroom and Home Educators to enhance classroom curriculum by utilizing an educational experience that cannot be accomplished in the classroom setting. Field trips require [pre-registration](#) and 15 or more students of the appropriate grade level of the selected field trip.

**Indiana Education Service Centers** offer a variety of professional development opportunities. To learn more about professional learning opportunities in your area, visit the website of an Education Service Center in your area.

- [Region 8 Education Service Center](#)
- [Central Indiana Education Service Center](#)
- [Northwest Indiana Education Service Center](#)
- [Southern Indiana Education Service Center](#)
- [East Central Indiana Education Service Center](#)
- [West Central Indiana Education Service Center](#)
- [Wabash Valley Education Service Center](#)
- [Wilson Education Center ESC Region 2](#)

## Legislative & Policy Updates

For updates, check out our [Facebook](#) page and follow us on [Twitter](#).

## Information from Other Agencies

**NEW - Olin Davis Award for Exemplary Teachers of Economics**, Application Deadline Approaching! Do you know of an outstanding educator that deserves recognition for their outstanding teaching of economics? If so, encourage them to apply for the 2016 Olin W. Davis Award for Exemplary Teaching of Economics. Applications are due by April 18, 2016. <http://www.econed-in.org/olindavis.asp>

**NEW - Schoolhouse News, from the Indiana Association of School Principals** is full of timely, pertinent information to keep you up to date and informed regarding educational matters around the state. [www.iasp.org/shn/04.08.16.pdf](http://www.iasp.org/shn/04.08.16.pdf)

**NEW - [This week on The Friday Zone](#)** - We're flyin' high with hot air balloons! Watch as a balloon is unfurled right in The Zone. We'll travel to the Indianapolis Zoo to get an up-close look at some amazing butterflies. Learn how to make a comet at the IU Science Fest. [The Friday Zone](#) is a weekly program on Indiana PBS stations that uses hands-on demonstrations to teach children in grades K-2 principles drawn from state educational standards. Check your local station for times.

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**Imagining the possibilities. Making them happen.**



This email was sent to: [hart@doe.in.gov](mailto:hart@doe.in.gov)

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